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# Senate okays Bush to lead CIA

Washington Bureau of The Sun  
Washington—George Bush, former political troubleshooter and ex-ambassador to China, was confirmed by the Senate yesterday as the new director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Senate approved him 64 to 27, despite doubts voiced by some senators as to the qualifications of Mr. Bush, onetime chairman of the Republican National Committee, to take over the intelligence agency at its most turbulent period in history. Both Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. (R., Md.) and Senator J. Glenn Beall, Jr. (R., Md.) voted in favor.

Mr. Bush is expected to be sworn in as CIA director next week, almost three months since he was nominated for the post by the President. Opposition to the Bush appointment focused on his political ties and contributed to the ruling out of Mr. Bush as a potential vice presidential candidate, a decision recently termed "tragic" by Mr. Ford, who is looking for a running mate.

The confirmation of Mr. Bush, who will succeed William E. Colby, an espionage veteran, came at a point when the White House was locked in dispute with congressional committees over how to handle the reformation of the intelligence service.

President Ford was described by Ronald H. Nessen, White House press secretary, as contemplating writing to Representative Otis G. Pike (D., N.Y.), chairman of the House Select Committee on Intelligence, reminding the congressman of the terms of his agreement whereby classified information is cleared with the President before it is released for publication.

A news leak believed to be from Mr. Pike's committee, resulted in the premature publication Monday of most of the panel's final report, including highly critical conclusions about the CIA. That leak succeeded a previous disclosure that the committee's report was equally critical of the alleged intelligence intervention of Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State.

The House panel, by a vote of 9 to 4, reflecting the disagreement within the committee, decided yesterday to recommend that total budgets for all intelligence agencies should be disclosed in the budget message and not concealed within the appropriations of other agencies.

The CIA is flatly opposed to any disclosure of its budget figures, contending that even broad outlines could give valuable information to foreign espionage services.

"The official release of the House committee report was delayed yesterday when an objection by Representative Robert E. Bauman (R., 1st) blocked a move by Mr. Pike to have the document issued by midnight Friday.

Under House rules, unanimous consent must be obtained in order to publish such a report when the House is not in session, and it does not normally meet on Fridays. Mr. Bauman said he understood there were members of the investigating committee who felt information damaging to national interests should be deleted before the report is released. He also asked the source of the leak to newspapers.

Mr. Pike admitted the leak had injured the committee's credibility, but hinted that the disclosure could have come from another source. He noted that the draft copies had been distributed to executive branch officials as well as to the State Department and Department of Defense.

The chairman, who proposed that committee members be given until February 11 to make recommendations on better oversight of the CIA and other agencies, is expected to call for the release of the report early next week.

The White House disclosed that President Ford will announce his intelligence service reorganization plan within the next two weeks. It will be followed by the findings of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities.

Meantime, Richard Helms, former CIA director, now ambassador to Iran, told the Senate Government Operations Committee that he believed a congressional intelligence oversight panel should have advance knowledge of covert operations.

Mr. Helms, who is under investigation by the Department of Justice as a result of his alleged role in previous CIA activities, including a 1971 break-in at a photographic laboratory in Virginia, contended that "some of the cases where I got in difficulty" involved conflicting laws. He cited a provision in the 1947 National Security Act whereby the CIA director had the responsibility of protecting intelligence sources and methods.



AP  
Richard Helms, a former CIA director, tells a Senate committee he thinks a congressional oversight panel should have advance knowledge of any covert operations.